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## NOTES AND FRAGMENTS

*Land Office Seal.*—On page 444, Vol. 19, of *THE QUARTERLY*, reference was made to the seal of the General Land Office, which had recently come into the possession of the Texas State Historical Association. The *Texas State Gazette*, May 25, 1850, contains a letter from Edward Hall, partner of William Bryan, in which the following facts concerning this seal are given:

"The late Commissioner of the General Land Office, Col. Thos. Wm. Ward, ordered, through Mr. Bryan, a seal to be engraved in New Orleans, which Mr. Bryan had made, as he supposed, agreeably to the order. He sent it to Col. Ward, with a bill of the cost; but Col. Ward afterwards returned it, stating that it would not answer. Mr. Bryan offered it back to the engraver, who refused to take it, and demanded payment. Mr. Bryan replied that he had not received the pay from Col. Ward, and declined paying for it. The engraver then said he might keep it, for he would have nothing more to do with it. The seal was then put away among Mr. Bryan's papers as perfectly useless."

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NEWS ITEMS

The Sam Houston Normal has received the smoking and sleeping caps of General Sam Houston. These interesting articles were recently sent to President Estill by Colonel A. J. Houston, of Beaumont, to become a part of the collection of the personal effects of General Sam Houston which the Sam Houston Normal has been making for many years. Among other things, the Normal has, in addition to the new articles, General Houston's leopard skin vest, walking cane, saddle, drinking cup, spectacles and a number of personal effects.—*Galveston News*, December 31, 1916.

Major George W. Littlefield has added within the past six months more than \$10,000 to the available funds of the Littlefield Fund for Southern History. With this money the University of Texas has already acquired the valuable file of Charleston newspapers noticed in the previous number of *THE QUARTERLY*, and is now engaged in acquiring collections of session laws, legisla-

tive journals and documents, journals of Constitutional Conventions, etc., for all the Southern States.

A Confederate monument was unveiled at Georgetown, November 10, 1916.

Colonel George Iverson Goodwin, author of the bill creating the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, died at his home in Brownwood, October 26, 1916.

Andrew Phelps McCormick, Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, died at Waco, November 2, 1916.

Mrs. Frances Asbury Mood, widow of the late Dr. F. A. Mood, founder of Southwestern University, died at her home in Georgetown, November 13, 1916.

Paul Waples, Chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee, was killed on November 16, 1916, when the automobile in which he was riding and an interurban street car collided.

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#### AFFAIRS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Annual Business Meeting of the Texas State Historical Association will be held at Austin on Friday, March 2, 1917, at 10 o'clock, in Room 158 of the Main Building of the University of Texas.